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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,940	04/10/2006	Emma Terricabras Belart	09605.0012	9204

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EXAMINER

MOORE, SUSANNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/05/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/542,940	Applicant(s) TERRICABRAS BELART ET AL.	
	Examiner SUSANNA MOORE	Art Unit 1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14 and 18-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18 and 20-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 7, 12, 14 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 8-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's argument, see Remarks, filed 11/4/2008, with respect to Final Office Action mailed 8/4/2008 have been fully considered. Prosecution is reopened due to rejoinder. Applicant has requested rejoinder of the process of making and method of intended use, claims 12 and 19. Thus, this is a NonFinal Office Action since new rejections are being made. In summary, claims 1-12, 14 and 19 are currently pending and under consideration.

Applicant stated that claims 20 and 22, drawn to complex compositions, were “among the method of treatment claims.” This is not correct. See the restriction requirement dated 11/14/2007, Group (IV). Furthermore, The Final Office Action dated 8/4/2008, in the second paragraph states the claims are drawn to complex compositions. Applicant argues that the search of these claims is the same for as the search for the compounds of claim 1. However, claims 20 and 22 are complex composition claims and do require an additional search beyond that required for claim 1. Moreover, the claims lack unity of invention as outlined in the restriction requirement dated 11/14/2007, see page 3. Thus, these claims will not be rejoined.

Claim Objections

The objection of claims 7 and 11 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is **withdrawn** based on the amendments.

Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: the proviso is repeated on page 7. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 5 and 8-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 18 and 20-22 are objected to because of the following informalities: this application contains claims 18 and 20-22, drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144). See MPEP § 821.01. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

The rejection of claim 4 for reciting the term "dialkylamino" in the definition of R₂ is **withdrawn** based on the amendments.

The rejection of claims 1-6, 8-10 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for compounds of Formula 1, wherein R₄= methyl does not reasonably provide enablement for compounds of Formula 1, wherein R₄ is H is **withdrawn** based on the amendments.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 12, 14 and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 1 and 4 the "alkylene groups" defined as a variable on R_3 is unduly functional. R_3 is defined as an aryl or heteroaryl and alkylene is CH_2 , which is divalent. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 12, 14 and 19 are vague.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "a cycloalkyl group" as a substituent on R_1 or R_2 . There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "a hydroxyl group" as a substituent on R_1 or R_2 combined. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Such a utility cannot be deemed enabled. .

Pursuant to *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988), one considers the following factors to determine whether undue experimentation is required: (A) The breadth of the claims; (B) The nature of the invention; (C) The state of the prior art; (D) The level of one of ordinary skill; (E) The level of predictability in the art; (F) The amount of direction provided by the inventor; (G) The existence of working examples; and (H) The quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure.

Some experimentation is not fatal; the issue is whether the amount of experimentation is “undue”; see *In re Vaeck*, 20 USPQ2d 1438, 1444.

The analysis is as follows:

(A) Breadth of claims.

(a) Scope of the compounds. Owing to the range of 4 primary variables, millions of thieno[2,3-d]pyrimidine compounds are embraced.

(b) Scope of the diseases covered. Claim 19 is drawn to asthma, atopic dermatitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Crohn's disease, type I and type II diabetes, lymphoid leukemia and other forms of cancer, multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection after organ transplantation, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, and ulcerative colitis. Several of the umbrella terms above will be discussed in more detail below.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a slowly progressive disease of the airways that is characterized by a gradual loss of lung function. COPD includes chronic obstructive Bronchitis (which involves inflammation and eventual scarring of the bronchi) and emphysema (enlargement and destruction of the alveoli). Emphysema comes in several forms, including Congenital Lobar Emphysema, Bullous Emphysema, Centrilobular Emphysema (Proximal acinar emphysema), Panacinar (panlobular), Distal acinar (paraseptal) as well as Alpha-1 antitrypsin (AAT) deficiency, which is the genetic form of emphysema; patients often have both a form of bronchitis and emphysema. Ordinary chronic bronchitis is sometimes included with COPD even if there is no actual obstruction, and asthmatic bronchitis is generally included in COPD as well.

Cancers that may be treated by the compounds, compositions and methods of the invention include, but are not limited to: Cardiac: sarcoma (angiosarcoma, fibrosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, liposarcoma), myxoma, rhabdomyoma, fibroma, lipoma and teratoma; Lung: bronchogenic carcinoma (squamous cell, undifferentiated small cell, undifferentiated large cell, adenocarcinoma), alveolar (bronchiolar) carcinoma, bronchial adenoma, sarcoma, lymphoma, chondromatous hamartoma, mesothelioma; Gastrointestinal: esophagus (squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, leiomyosarcoma, lymphoma), stomach (carcinoma, lymphoma, leiomyosarcoma), pancreas (ductal adenocarcinoma, insulinoma, glucagonoma, gastrinoma, carcinoid tumors, vipoma), small bowel (adenocarcinoma, lymphoma, carcinoid tumors, Karposi's sarcoma, leiomyoma, hemangioma, lipoma, neurofibroma, fibroma), large bowel (adenocarcinoma, tubular adenoma, villous adenoma, hamartoma, leiomyoma); Genitourinary tract: kidney (adenocarcinoma, Wilm's tumor [nephroblastoma], lymphoma, leukemia), bladder and urethra (squamous cell carcinoma, transitional cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma), prostate (adenocarcinoma, sarcoma), testis (seminoma, teratoma, embryonal carcinoma, teratocarcinoma, choriocarcinoma, sarcoma, interstitial cell carcinoma, fibroma, fibroadenoma, adenomatoid tumors, lipoma); Liver: hepatoma (hepatocellular carcinoma), cholangiocarcinoma, hepatoblastoma, angiosarcoma, hepatocellular adenoma, hemangioma; Bone: osteogenic sarcoma (osteosarcoma), fibrosarcoma, malignant fibrous histiocytoma, chondrosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, malignant lymphoma (reticulum cell sarcoma), multiple myeloma, malignant giant cell tumor chordoma, osteochondroma (osteochondrogenous exostoses), benign chondroma, chondroblastoma, chondromyxofibroma, osteoid osteoma and giant cell tumors; Nervous system: skull (osteoma, hemangioma, granuloma, xanthoma, osteitis deformans), meninges

Art Unit: 1624

(meningioma, meningiosarcoma, gliomatosis), brain (astrocytoma, medulloblastoma, glioma, ependymoma, germinoma [pinealoma], glioblastoma multiform, oligodendroglioma, schwannoma, retinoblastoma, congenital tumors), spinal cord neurofibroma, meningioma, glioma, sarcoma); Gynecological: uterus (endometrial carcinoma), cervix (cervical carcinoma, pre-tumor cervical dysplasia), ovaries (ovarian carcinoma [serous cystadenocarcinoma, mucinous cystadenocarcinoma, unclassified carcinoma], granulosa-thecal cell tumors, Sertoli-Leydig cell tumors, dysgerminoma, malignant teratoma), vulva (squamous cell carcinoma, intraepithelial carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, fibrosarcoma, melanoma), vagina (clear cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, botryoid sarcoma (embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma), fallopian tubes (carcinoma); Hematologic: blood (myeloid leukemia [acute and chronic], acute lymphoblastic leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, myeloproliferative diseases, multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndrome), Hodgkin's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma [malignant lymphoma]; Skin: malignant melanoma, basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, Karposi's sarcoma, moles dysplastic nevi, lipoma, angioma, dermatofibroma, keloids; and Adrenal glands: neuroblastoma. Thus, the term "cancerous cell" as provided herein, includes a cell afflicted by any one of the above identified conditions.

(B) The nature of the invention and predictability in the art: The invention is directed towards medicine and is therefore physiological in nature. It is well established that “the scope of enablement varies inversely with the degree of unpredictability of the factors involved,” and physiological activity is generally considered to be an unpredictable factor. See *In re Fisher*, 427 F.2d 833, 839, 166 USPQ 18, 24 (CCPA 1970).

(C) Direction or Guidance: That provided is very limited. The dosage range information 10-600 mg/day is generic, the same for the many disorders covered by the specification. Thus, there is no specific direction or guidance regarding a regimen or dosage effective specifically for the treatment of the vast number of diseases covered by the scope.

(D) State of the Prior Art: These compounds are highly substituted thieno[2,3-d]pyrimidines. So far as the examiner is aware, no highly substituted thieno[2,3-d]pyrimidines of any kind have been used for the treatment of the diseases covered by the scope as outlined above.

(E) Working Examples: There are 135 working examples of compounds on pages 31-101. The instant compounds were examined in an assay measuring in vitro binding to PDE7. The results are summarized on page 28 of the Specification. There are no in vivo working examples for the treatment of any diseases embraced by the Scope of diseases above.

(F) Skill of those in the art: These diseases and disorders covered by the Scope of diseases above cannot be treated generally by any one drug. These are all different diseases and disorders, which occur at different locations and by different modes of action in the body.

The prior art knows that there never has been a compound capable of treating cancer generally. "The cancer therapy art remains highly unpredictable, and no example exists for efficacy of a single product against tumors generally."

(<<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/1pecba.htm#7>

[>http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/1pecba.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/1pecba.htm)>> ENABLEMENT DECISION

TREE, Example F, situation 1) There are compounds that treat a modest range of cancers, but no one has ever been able to figure out how to get a compound to be effective against cancer generally, or even a majority of cancers. Thus, the existence of such a "silver bullet" is contrary to our present understanding in oncology.

Regional enteritis (Crohn's disease or ileitis) is an autoimmune disorder, which is associated with the presence of *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*. It can affect any part of the gastrointestinal tract but most commonly affects the ileum. The inflammation is controlled primarily by regulation of diet, antibiotics if abscesses and fistulas are present, sometimes Prednisone and other corticosteroids, and surgery.

Persons with COPD typically develop smaller air passageways, which can become clogged with mucus and have partially destroyed alveoli. There is no pharmaceutical treatment for COPD per se. Instead, treatment is supportive and designed to relieve symptoms and improve quality of life. Thus, oxygen is often given to partially compensate for the loss of lung function. Bronchodilators can expand passageways in the lungs, Corticosteroids can reduce inflammation and Antibiotics can ward off bacterial infections, but none of these treat the COPD itself.

Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis and ulcerative colitis are all autoimmune diseases which are treated differently. Rheumatoid arthritis is treated with an alpha-TNF inhibitor, e.g. Enbrel. Currently there is no actual treatment for multiple sclerosis itself, only management of symptoms. Psoriasis is a hyperproliferative skin disease of the immune system, which is hard to treat.

(G) The quantity of experimentation needed: Owing especially to factors A, C, E and F, the amount of experimentation is expected to be high.

MPEP 2164.01(a) states, “A conclusion of lack of enablement means that, based on the evidence regarding each of the above factors, the specification, at the time the application was filed, would not have taught one skilled in the art how to make and/or use the full scope of the claimed invention without undue experimentation. *In re Wright*, 999 F.2d 1557,1562, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993).” That conclusion is clearly justified here.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUSANNA MOORE whose telephone number is (571)272-9046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. James Wilson can be reached on (571) 272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Susanna Moore/
Examiner, Art Unit 1624

/Brenda L. Coleman/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1624